

In the claims:

Please amend claims 23, 25, 27, 29, 33-36, 39, 40, 43, 44, 47, 48, 60-67, 72-74, 77, 78, 81, 82, 85 and 86 as follows.

*D*² 3. ~~23.~~ (Once Amended) The polypeptide of claim ~~22~~, wherein the amino acid sequence is fused to a heterologous polypeptide.

*D*³ 5. ~~25.~~ (Once Amended) The polypeptide of claim ~~24~~, wherein the amino acid sequence is fused to a heterologous polypeptide.

*D*⁴ 7. ~~27.~~ (Once Amended) The polypeptide of claim ~~26~~, wherein the amino acid sequence is fused to a heterologous polypeptide.

*D*⁵ 9. ~~29.~~ (Once Amended) The polypeptide of claim ~~28~~, wherein the amino acid sequence is fused to a heterologous polypeptide.

*D*⁶ 10. ~~38.~~ (Once Amended) The polypeptide of claim ~~22~~, wherein the amino acid sequence is fused to a heterologous polypeptide.

*D*⁷ 11. ~~34.~~ (Twice Amended) An isolated polypeptide comprising a first amino acid sequence that is at least 95% identical to a second amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

(a) amino acids 1 to 381 of SEQ ID NO:2;

D⁷
cont'd

- (b) amino acids 2 to 381 of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (c) amino acids 25 to 381 of SEQ ID NO:2; and
- (d) a polypeptide fragment of SEQ ID NO:2,

wherein said polypeptide or polypeptide fragment stimulates cellular proliferation.

D⁸

12. ^{35.} (Once Amended) The polypeptide of claim ^{11.}~~34~~, wherein said second amino acid sequence is (a).

D⁹

13. ^{36.} (Once Amended) The polypeptide of claim ^{12.}~~35~~, wherein the amino acid sequence is fused to a heterologous polypeptide.

D⁹

14. ^{39.} (Once Amended) The polypeptide of claim ^{11.}~~34~~, wherein said second amino acid sequence is (b).

D¹⁰

15. ^{40.} (Once Amended) The polypeptide of claim ^{14.}~~39~~, wherein the amino acid sequence is fused to a heterologous polypeptide.

D¹⁰

16. ^{41.} (Once Amended) The polypeptide of claim ^{11.}~~34~~, wherein said second amino acid sequence is (c).

D¹¹

17. ^{42.} (Once Amended) The polypeptide of claim ^{16.}~~41~~, wherein the amino acid sequence is fused to a heterologous polypeptide.

D 18. (Once Amended) The polypeptide of claim ~~34~~¹¹, wherein said second amino acid sequence is (d).

D 19. 18. (Once Amended) The polypeptide of claim ~~47~~⁴⁸, wherein the amino acid sequence is fused to a heterologous polypeptide.

D 20. 21. (Once Amended) The polypeptide of claim ~~59~~⁵⁰, wherein said amino acid sequence is (a).

D 21. 22. (Once Amended) The polypeptide of claim ~~60~~⁶¹, wherein the amino acid sequence is fused to a heterologous polypeptide.

D 22. 23. (Once Amended) The polypeptide of claim ~~59~~⁵⁰, wherein said amino acid sequence is (b).

D 24. 23. (Once Amended) The polypeptide of claim ~~62~~⁶³, wherein the amino acid sequence is fused to a heterologous polypeptide.

D 25. 20. (Once Amended) The polypeptide of claim ~~59~~⁵⁰, wherein said amino acid sequence is (c).

D 26. 25. (Once Amended) The polypeptide of claim ~~64~~⁶⁵, wherein the amino acid sequence is fused to a heterologous polypeptide.

D¹² cont'd
27.
66.

(Once Amended) The polypeptide of claim 59, wherein said amino acid sequence is (d).

28.
67.

(Once Amended) The polypeptide of claim 68, wherein the amino acid sequence is fused to a heterologous polypeptide.

29.
72.

(Twice Amended) An isolated polypeptide comprising a first amino acid sequence that is at least 95% identical to a second amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

D¹³
(a) the amino acid sequence of the full-length polypeptide encoded by the human cDNA contained in ATCC Deposit Number 75904;

(b) the amino acid sequence of the full-length polypeptide, lacking the N-terminal methionine, encoded by the human cDNA contained in ATCC Deposit Number 75904;

(c) the amino acid sequence of the mature polypeptide encoded by the human cDNA contained in ATCC Deposit Number 75904; and

(d) a polypeptide fragment of the polypeptide encoded by the human cDNA contained in ATCC Deposit Number 75904;

wherein said polypeptide or polypeptide fragment stimulates cellular proliferation.

D¹⁴
30.
72.

(Once Amended) The polypeptide of claim 72, wherein said second amino acid sequence is (a).

D¹⁴
31.
74. (Once Amended) The polypeptide of claim 78, wherein the amino acid sequence is fused to a heterologous polypeptide.

D¹⁵
32.
77. (Once Amended) The polypeptide of claim 72, wherein said second amino acid sequence is (b).

D¹⁶
33.
78. (Once Amended) The polypeptide of claim 77, wherein the amino acid sequence is fused to a heterologous polypeptide.

D¹⁷
34.
81. (Once Amended) The polypeptide of claim 72, wherein said second amino acid sequence is (c).

D¹⁸
35.
82. (Once Amended) The polypeptide of claim 81, wherein the amino acid sequence is fused to a heterologous polypeptide.

D¹⁹
36.
85. (Once Amended) The polypeptide of claim 72, wherein said second amino acid sequence is (d).

D²⁰
37.
86. (Once Amended) The polypeptide of claim 85, wherein the amino acid sequence is fused to a heterologous polypeptide.